GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:112
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2001
NEW AGRICULTURAL POLICY
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Agricultural Policy is being formulated;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the provisions made to safeguard the farmers from the adverse impact of WTO agreement;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any detailed action plan for its implementation;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the State Governments have been consulted before formulating the detailed action plan; and

(g) if not, the measures being taken to ensure that the requirements of States are taken care of?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.112 DUE FOR REPLY ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 2001.

(a)&(b): The National Agricultural Policy was announced in July, 2000. The National Policy on Agriculture seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro-business, create employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families discourage migration to urban areas and face the challenges arising out of economic liberalization and globalization.

(c): The National Agriculture Policy provides sufficient safequards against any adverse impact of WTO-Agreement on Agriculture and dismantling of quantitative restrictions. Emphasis is laid on boosting productivity and quality, thereby enhancing competitiveness of our commodities. The Policy envisages commodity wise strategies and arrangements for insulating the farmers against under price fluctuation in world market, by continuous monitoring of international prices and appropriate measures including tariff protection. Strategy for promoting exports through enhancing production and marketing is outlined.

(d)&(e): Besides the various ongoing Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, the Government has taken several initiatives to implement the National Agriculture Policy. Government has also enhanced import duties to protect interests of farmers and has initiated short and long term measures in the EXIM Policy with mandatory regulations/restrictions to contain unguarded surge in imports and to promote exports.

(f): Yes, Sir.

(g): Does not arise.